Providence, Aug. 13, 1874.

Dear Wife— Your letter was received yesterday, after I had deposited mine in the post-office. The most comforting word you can send me is the assurance that you are feeling better than when I left. The present month is perhaps the most trying of the twelve; and to-day there is a dog-day state of the atmosphere that is anything rather than inspiriting. For myself, I am as limp as a wet rag, and, as the military phrase is, quite "demoralized." Yesterday I had strong electrical treatment in connection with my Turkish bath, and a vigorous manipulation by Dr. Dow; and I was hoping to feel all the better for it. But— perhaps the sultriness of the weather had something to do with it— I tossed and turned on my bed all night, getting no sleep whatever, and hearing the clock strike every hour from 10 P. M. until 7 this

morning. Moreover, my rheumatic pains were particularly sharp, extending for the first time the entire length of the left leg up into the thigh — a clear proof of sciatica — and confining me closely to the house. I told Dr. Dow, at breakfast, that I was satisfied taking a Turkish every day was weakening me, at the same time not making any perceptible impression for the better upon my chronic trouble. He will therefore try electricity one day, and the bath the next. He speaks confidently of relieving me ere long, and considers my present condition as the result of a "stirring up" of my system, necessary, but certainly not encouraging at first. I have now been here a fortnight, and am not as well as when I came, and I walk with more difficulty. Sciatic rheumatism is a formidable complaint; and if I shall be obliged to return home without being helped, I shall feel none the less grateful to the Doctor for his earnest efforts to aid me.

I wrote to you yesterday that I proposed returning home on Saturday, and remaining with you till Monday. But "cousin Julia" came last evening, saying that Miss Waterman was to leave to-day, to be gone for a week, and had expressed pleasure at the proposition of Julia to invite, first, Frank — then William — and then Harry and Fanny, to be hospitably entertained at her house during her absence; giving us all an opportunity to make excursions down the bay together, as far as Newport. Julia said she had written to Frank to come to-morrow night, and remain till Monday; which I hope he will be able to do — if not Frank, then William — as I can make my proposed visit home a week from next Saturday just as well, and may then be in better trim. Julia is very desirous to have this arrangement made, and said she would write you on the subject to-day, as she wished first to get my consent to her plan.

Should Frank or William come, I wish he would bring me fifty dollars, as I ~~would~~ shall doubtless oblige Dr. Dow by paying my board, &c. from week to week. What it will be (including treatment and washing), I do not know, but probably about twenty dollars per week. If neither of them can come, then I shall be with you on Saturday, as originally proposed, and I can then get the money I need.

Charlotte not only knew of George Henry's ill turn, but went to see him, but had no time to give you a call. I have not seen her since her return.

Yesterday, I visited an artist's studio, (Mr. Arnold's,) and several ladies and gentlemen came up in the elevator to be introduced to me — among them Attorney General Sayles — all of them very courteous and marked in their attentions. Afterward, lawyer E. H. Hazard called upon me, and then Mr. Earle, of Valley Falls, occupying a couple of hours.

Ever your loving W. L. G.